

News

ARIZONA Department of Revenue

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

YUMA TAX PREPARER INDICTED FOR FRAUDULENT TAX RETURN

Arizona Department of Revenue Director Gale Garriott and Arizona Attorney General Terry Goddard today announced charges filed against Yuma resident David Arthur Torres for preparing fraudulent state income tax returns. Torres, 60, operates a Yuma area tax preparation business known as Torres Tax Service.

He was indicted by the State Grand Jury on 23 felony counts related to the preparation of false and fraudulent Arizona individual income tax returns involving the years 2001 through 2004. Torres greatly inflated the deductions taken on his clients' returns during these years.

"People put their trust in return preparers and rely on them to prepare accurate returns. These individuals are in the business of preparing returns and should do the best job for their clients," said

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Garriott. "It is an outrageous situation when a return preparer takes advantage of clients. Torres' clients put their trust in him only to find out he had inflated their deductions. Unfortunately, These clients are the ones who will ultimately be responsible for paying any additional taxes with interest."

"This action demonstrates the commitment of the Department of Revenue and the Attorney General's Office to aggressively pursue anyone who prepares fraudulent returns," said Goddard. "The Department of Revenue and the Attorney General's Office are working together to crack down on people who cheat the Arizona tax system."

"It is particularly disturbing that any tax professional would deliberately mislead trusting clients to file fraudulent returns. This practice violates the premise that each taxpayer should pay the legal amount of tax owed to share the burden equitably," concluded Garriott.

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